

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claims 27 through 32 as presented below, and please cancel claims 1 through 26 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (New) A process for the production of a scopolamine free base containing transdermal system substantially free of crystals of scopolamine free base, comprising annealing scopolamine free base containing layers of said transdermal system at a temperature above the melting point of the crystals for a period of time sufficient to melt the crystals, wherein the annealing process is performed within about 24 hours of casting a scopolamine free base containing formulation onto a web for use in constructing said transdermal system.

Claim 28 (New) The process of claim 27, wherein said transdermal system is further packaged and further heat treated at a temperature of at least 67° C to about 90° C for a period of about 4 hours to about 24 hours.

Claim 29 (New) The process of claim 17, wherein said annealing takes place at about 75° C to about 90° C.

Claim 30 (New) The process of claim 27, wherein said annealing takes place over a period of about 2 – 10 minutes.

Claim 31 (New) The process of claim 27, wherein a drug reservoir layer containing scopolamine free base and a contract adhesive layer containing scopolamine free base are each separately annealed, then contacted and further annealed prior to packaging.

Claim 32 (New) A method for manufacturing delivery devices for the transdermal administration of scopolamine comprising, in combination:

- a. forming a laminate, at least one lamina of which comprises a dispersion of said scopolamine in a non-aqueous matrix;
  - b. cutting subunits forming said delivery devices from said laminate;
  - c. packaging said delivery devices in sealed containers;
  - d. heating said delivery devices in said containers to a temperature above the melting point of crystalline scopolamine hydrate and maintaining said delivery devices at such temperature for a time sufficient to prevent the formation or eliminate the presence of crystals of scopolamine hydrate for a substantial period of time after cooling of the subunits to ambient temperatures; and
  - e. cooling the delivery devices to ambient temperatures;
- the improvement comprising heating at least each scopolamine containing layer to a temperature exceeding the melting point of scopolamine crystal for a period of time sufficient to melt the crystals which improvement heating step is conducted prior to but within about 24 hours, or during the process, or laminating and/or sealing the scopolamine containing layer.